

REMARKS

Claims 6-26 are now pending in the application. The amendments to the claims contained herein are intended to broaden the scope thereof or are of equivalent scope as originally filed and, thus, are not a narrowing amendment. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 1-5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101, as claiming the same invention as that of claims 1-5 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,469,919. Applicant has canceled claims 1-5 and added new claims 6-26. In view of the amendments to the claims, Applicant respectfully suggests that the rejection has been rendered moot.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: Mar 9, 2004

By: 

Joseph M. Lafata, Reg. No. 37,166

HARNES, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303
(248) 641-1600

JML/eln

Serial No. 10/657,825